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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION
REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED
NATIONS AND THE CONFERENCE
ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION
IN EUROPE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 22 December 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as representative of the European Union, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the conclusions on foreign relations of the summit meeting of the European Council held on 9 and 10 December 1994 at Essen, Germany (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization", "Report of the Security Council", "Report of the Economic and Social Council" and "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Detlev GRAF ZU RANTZAU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

The external relations of the European Union

The European Union is making an essential contribution to overcoming the legacy of past divisions and promoting peace, security and stability in and around Europe. Following its enlargement to 15 member States on 1 January 1995, the European Union will embark on its programme to prepare for the accession of all European countries with which it has concluded Europe Agreements. The European Union, recognizing the need for balance in its relations with all its neighbours, is also developing a programme to establish a Euro-Mediterranean partnership to promote peace, stability, prosperity and cooperation in the region. It will continue to cooperate with the countries of the European Economic Area and Switzerland, seeking to develop closer ties of political and economic cooperation with them.

The European Council emphasizes the significance of the transatlantic relations of the European Union with the United States and Canada on the basis of the transatlantic declarations of November 1990. It welcomes the agreement expressed at the European Union-Canada summit meeting held on 6 July 1994 at Bonn and at the European Union-United States summit meeting held on 12 July 1994 at Berlin to develop relations further. It takes note with approval of the establishment by the European Union-United States summit meeting of ad hoc study groups. It trusts that suggestions for closer cooperation worked out by the study groups will be submitted to the forthcoming summit meeting.

The development of the European Union's relations with the Russian Federation is an essential element in the maintenance of peace, security and stability in Europe. The European Council looks for the early ratification of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement and is determined to exploit to the full its possibilities. It looks forward to a sustained constructive dialogue and partnership with Russia on political and economic issues.

The European Council welcomes the signing on 18 July of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Ukraine, as well as the adoption of a common position setting out European Union objectives and priorities regarding Ukraine. The European Council welcomes the economic reforms that have been introduced in Ukraine, the adjustment programme agreed on with the International Monetary Fund and the political decision of principle by the Economic and Financial Affairs Council on 5 December 1994 to grant Community balance-of-payments aid, which should now be implemented with all speed. It urges Ukraine to continue energetically with the reforms initiated, and looks forward to constructive cooperation in the implementation of the action plan agreed on in Corfu for the speedy closure of Chernobyl. The European Union will continue to support the democratic and economic reforms in Ukraine. It welcomes the ratification by Ukraine, as a non-nuclear State, of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

1. Relations with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe

The European Council confirms the conclusions of the European Councils in Copenhagen and Corfu that the associated States of Central and Eastern Europe can become members of the European Union if they so desire and as soon as they are able to fulfil the necessary conditions.

The European Council has decided to boost and improve the process of further preparing the associated States of Central and Eastern Europe for accession to the European Union. It is doing so in the knowledge that the institutional conditions for ensuring the proper functioning of the Union must be created at the 1996 intergovernmental conference which for that reason must take place before accession negotiations begin. The European Council has decided on a comprehensive strategy submitted by the Council and the Commission at the request of the European Council in Corfu for preparing those countries for accession to the European Union.

The strategy is tailored to the needs of the countries with which Europe Agreements were concluded and will be applied to other countries with which such Agreements are concluded in the future.

The European Council requests the Commission and the Council to do everything necessary to ensure that Europe Agreements can be concluded with the Baltic States and Slovenia under the French Presidency, so that those States can be included in the preparation strategy for accession to the European Union.

The strategy adopted by the European Council is being politically implemented by the creation, between the associated States and the institutions of the European Union, of "structured relations" that encourage mutual trust and will provide a framework for addressing topics of common interest.

The key element in the strategy to narrow the gap is preparation of the associated States for integration into the internal market of the Union.

The European Council requests the Commission to submit a White Paper on this subject in time for its next meeting and to report annually to the General Affairs Council on the progress of implementation of the accession preparation strategy that has been adopted, in particular on the gradual adoption of the internal market rules.

In addition, the European Council requests the Commission to submit as quickly as possible the detailed analysis desired by the Council of the effects of enlargement in the context of the Union's current policies and their future development.

The European Council further calls on the Commission to submit a study of means of developing relations between the European Union and the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe in the agricultural sector during 1995, with a view to future accession.

Preparation for the internal market is to be backed up by a variety of measures designed to promote integration through the development of

infrastructure and of cooperation in fields having above all a trans-European dimension (including energy, environment, transport, science and technology) in the fields of common foreign and security policy and of justice and home affairs. The programme of Assistance for Economic Restructuring in the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe (PHARE), appropriately funded within a multi-year financial framework in accordance with the preparatory strategy agreed upon, will provide financial support for the purpose.

Being aware of the role of regional cocperation within the Union, the Heads of State and Government emphasize the importance of similar cooperation between the associated countries for the promotion of economic development and good neighbourly relations. The Council has therefore approved a programme to promote such cooperation. That programme will also contribute to the objectives of the Stability Pact.

It is the European Council's belief that this strategy by the Union and the associated countries will help to prepare for accession and make the associated countries better able to assume their responsibilities as future member States.

The European Council regards the narrowing of the gap between the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the European Union and Western European Union (WEU) as a contribution to security and stability in Europe. The European Council welcomes the intention of the WEU to initiate deliberations on the new security situation in Europe, including the suggestion that a White Paper on security in Europe should be prepared.

2. Mediterranean policy

The Mediterranean represents a priority area of strategic importance for the European Union.

The European Council therefore welcomes the report submitted by the Council, in response to its request in Corfu, drawn up on the basis of a communication from the Commission; it reiterates the European Union's willingness to support the Mediterranean countries in their efforts progressively to transform their region into a zone of peace, stability, prosperity and cooperation, and to this end its willingness to establish a Euro-Mediterranean partnership, development appropriate agreements, progressively strengthen trade relations between the parties on the basis, inter alia, of the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, and, in the light of the Community's changing priorities, maintain an appropriate balance in the geographical allocation of Community expenditure and commitments.

The European Council recalls its decision in Corfu to conclude the negotiations with Morocco, Tunisia and Israel by the end of the year.

With regard to the additional financial aid in support of future Mediterranean policy, it asks the Council and the Commission to put into effect the principles set out in the Council's report.

It confirms the great importance it attaches (a) to opening similar negotiations in the near future with Egypt and other eligible Mediterranean countries that wish to do so; (b) to continuing economic support to Algeria, as envisaged by the European Council in Corfu, while calling for a dialogue among all those who reject violence; and (c) to concluding the negotiations with Turkey on the completion and unrestricted implementation of the customs union and to reinforcing relations that partner.

It confirms that the next phase of enlargement of the Union will involve Cyprus and Malta, and it invites the Council to examine in early 1995 new reports to be presented by the Commission.

Further, the European Council welcomes the intention of the future Spanish Presidency to convene in the second half of 1995, a Euro-Mediterranean ministerial conference with the participation of all Mediterranean countries concerned, and the intention of the French Presidency to give high priority to intensive preparation for that conference. The Conference should permit an in-depth discussion of future relations between the Union and the Mediterranean countries, addressing all relevant political, economic, social and cultural issues. It should reach agreement on a series of economic and political guidelines for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation into the next century, and it will establish a permanent and regular dialogue on all subjects of common interest.

The European Council expresses concern at the emergence of extremist and fundamentalist forces in a number of North African States. European Union policy must take account of those developments.

The European Council considers that Israel, because of its high level of economic development, should enjoy special status in its relations with the European Union on the basis of reciprocity and common interests. In the process, regional economic development in the Middle East, including the Palestinian areas, will also be boosted. The European Council requests the Council and the Commission to report to it at its next meeting on action taken.

The European Council agreed that, as the largest international donor, the European Union should continue to make a significant economic and political contribution in support of the Middle East peace process, in particular in the reconstruction of the Palestinian areas.

The European Council welcomes the conclusion of the Israel-Jordan peace agreement, which consolidates and strengthens the positive development in relations between the two countries.

3. Situation in the former Yugoslavia

The European Council has adopted a separate statement on this subject.

4. Human rights

The European Council made a statement to the press expressing its concern that freely elected members of parliament had been sentenced to imprisonment in Turkey, and urging respect for human rights.

5. Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

The European Council regrets that no agreement was reached on the situation in the former Yugoslavia at the meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), held at Budapest on 5 and 6 December 1994. It expressly welcomes the call for humanitarian aid, made on the initiative of the President of the European Council, especially for the region of Bihac.

The European Council welcomes the other results of the CSCE summit meeting. In particular, the intention of providing, subject to appropriate conditions, a multinational peace force for Nagorny Karabakh under the planned Security Council resolution and the decision to discuss all aspects of a future European security model confirm the important role of the future Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe as a part of a Europe-wide security structure.

The European Council further confirms the great significance it attaches to the success of the joint action for concluding the Stability Pact for Europe. It welcomes the results achieved heretofore in implementing this initiative.

6. Asia

The European Council emphasizes the economic and political significance of the countries of the Asia-Pacific region and reaffirms that the European Union and its member States wish to strengthen cooperation and dialogue at all levels with the countries and regional organizations in the Asia-Pacific region, in particular the Association of South-East Asian Nations.

It welcomes the Council report on European Union strategy on Asia and urges the Council and the Commission to report to it as soon as possible on the practical measures taken in that regard.

7. Latin America

The European Council reaffirms the resolve expressed in the European Union's "basic paper" on its relations with the Latin American and Caribbean States to establish a new, comprehensive partnership between the two regions. It urges the Council and the Commission, working on the basis of the Council's report, to create as quickly as possible the conditions for an early opening of negotiations with the Mercado Común Sudamericano (MERCOSUR) States on an interregional framework agreement, including a memorandum of understanding, and to put into concrete form without delay ideas on the future form of treaty relations with Mexico and on the extension of relations with Chile.

8. Africa

The European Council reaffirms the European Union's link with the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group), which has found expression in the Lomé Conventions. It confirms that priority will also be accorded in the future to the further development of relations. In this connection, particular importance is attached to the negotiations for the mid-term review of Lomé IV begun in 1994.

The European Council welcomes the recent signing of an Angolan peace agreement at Lusaka, and strongly urges the parties to abide fully by the terms of that agreement.

The European Council welcomes the stepping-up of cooperation with southern Africa as a result of the first meeting of European Union foreign ministers and the Southern African Development Community, and advocates the continuation of this cooperation in all spheres. It also advocates an intensive political dialogue between the European Union and the Organization of African Unity, in particular regarding conflict prevention in Africa.

The European Council is concerned at the worsening situation of the refugees on Rwanda's borders and the associated risk of regional destabilization. While emphasizing their extreme urgency, it welcomes the current initiatives of the international community aimed at easing the return of the refugees, supporting the Government of Rwanda in restoring the rule of law, and encouraging national reconciliation.

9. Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The European Council reaffirms the European Union's firm and full commitment, already expressed by the European Council in Corfu, to the goals of universality and of indefinite and unconditional extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The European Union will continue its endeavours to further this objective within the context of its joint action on preparation for the 1995 conference on the Treaty.

10. Nuclear smuggling

The European Council voiced its concern regarding nuclear smuggling, and approved measures and guidelines to combat it. It calls on the Commission and member States to step up their cooperation in this field and effectively to assist countries of origin or transit in taking action on the ground. It also calls on all States which have not yet done so to place their sensitive civilian materials - plutonium and highly enriched uranium - under international safeguards.

11. World Summit for Social Development

The European Council is following with particular attention the preparations for the World Summit for Social Development, to be held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995. The European Union is actively involved in the preparation process for the conference and is committed to its successful conclusion.

12. Berlin Conference on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

The European Council confirms that, at the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held at Berlin in March/April 1995, it intends to secure a stabilization of carbon dioxide emissions in the industrialized countries at 1990 levels up to the year 2000, in order to protect the climate from harmful changes, and to consider how a similar commitment can be brought about beyond the year 2000.